

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
March 26, 2014

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
March 26, 2014
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time, in Council Chambers, located on the Sixth floor of City Hall, to consider any business that may lawfully be brought before the body.

The invocation was given by Mayor Panto followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Brown, Edinger, Ruggles, Warner, Warren, Panto (6)
Absent: Vulcano (1)

Also in attendance were Thomas Hess, City Clerk, William Murphy, City Solicitor and Glenn Steckman, City Administrator. There were approximately forty other persons present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Warren the Agenda was approved, as submitted, by the following vote:

Yeas: Panto, Warren, Warner, Ruggles, Edinger, Brown (6)
Nays: None (0)

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Brown, the March 12, 2014 Council Meeting minutes were approved, as submitted, by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, Ruggles, Warner, Warren, Panto (6)
Nays: None (0)

SWEARING IN OF FIRE CAPTAIN

At this time Mayor Panto swore in fire fighter, George Leidy as Fire Captain.

Mayor Panto congratulated Captain Leidy on his promotion, and thanked the fire fighter's, in attendance, for coming to the meeting, and recognized former Fire Captain Wayne Unangst, who was also in attendance.

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RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENT

John Price Certified Fire Investigator & Fire Officer

At this time Deputy Fire Chief John Bast, was called forward and recognized, for being awarded the title of Certified Fire Investigator from the International Association of Arson Investigators Inc. and certification as a Fire Officer by the Commission on Professional Credentialing, by Mayor Panto and Mr. Warren.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Agenda Items Only)

Mayor Panto welcomed the High School students in attendance to watch a Council meeting which was required by their teachers.

Mr. Steckman introduced Mr. George Kinney, the newly appointed Director of Planning and Codes, and spoke regarding his background and how he was selected.

Mr. Kinney offered a few words regarding his past experience and said that he was glad to be back in the Lehigh Valley.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Panto requested that the proposed Resolution regarding approving a Parking Lot Lease Agreement with Saral Inc. be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under New Business; that action was taken.

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Dr. Warner the following items, on the Consent Agenda, were adopted by the following vote:

Bill 11, (Ordinance 5458) An Ordinance amending Sections in Chapter 285, Fees, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., which amends various fees contained in Chapter 285 of the City's Code.

Bill 12, (Ordinance 5459) Amending Sections contained in Chapter 135, Records, Public, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., which amends wording in different sections contained in Chapter 135, Records, Public, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.

Bill 13, (Ordinance 5460) Amending Sub-Section 399-17, D, of Section 399-17, Parking Permits, of Article III College Hill parking Permits, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., which removes the following "Additional permits may be purchased upon the presentation of proof of vehicle ownership, the fee for additional permits is included in Chapter 285, Fees" from the Sub-Section.

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Resolution 38-2014, which states the City's intention to assist in complaints of Housing Discrimination.

Resolution 39-2014, which approves a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of a fire escape and removal of a retaining wall along the building at 106 N. 4th Street.

Resolution 40-2014, which approves a Certificate of Appropriateness for installation of signs at 14 Centre Square.

Resolution 41-2014, which approves a Management Agreement with the YMCA of Easton, Phillipsburg and Vicinity for the management of Heil and Eddyside Swimming Pools during the 2014 Summer season.

Resolution 42-2014, which approves the destruction of City records from the Finance, Purchasing and the City Clerks offices.

Resolution 44-23014, which approves the appointment of David Hopkins to the Easton Suburban Water Authority.

Yeas: Warner, Warren, Panto, Brown, Edinger, Ruggles (6)
Nays: None (0)

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following reports were received by Council:

- (a) Annual Fire Report for 2013.
- (b) 2013 Board of Health/Health Officer Annual Report.

Dr. Ruggles said he reviewed the Health Report, and that it seemed strange that 230 food inspections were completed on food service establishments and no violations were found.

Mayor Panto and Mr. Steckman spoke regarding possible explanations for this, and Mr. Steckman said that he would have Mr. Joseph Gill, the new Chief Health Administrator, at the next Council meeting to explain this and to answer any other questions the Council may have.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Finance Committee, had no report, but informed Council that he would have a Finance Committee meeting on April 22, 2014.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, was absent.

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Dr. Warner, Chairman of the Planning Committee, had no report.

Mr. Warren, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, had no report.

Dr. Ruggles, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, had no report, but informed Council that he would have a Committee meeting on April 8, 2014.

Mr. Edinger, Chairman of the Administration Committee had no report.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor, had no report.

Mayor Panto reported that on May 14, 2014, an appeal was scheduled in the Court of Common Please regarding Jack's Market's appeal for a Retail Liquor License. He said that he and Kim Kmetz would be attending. He reported that he was in Harrisburg, last week, and discussed a program to address unfunded Pension liability, and would be going back out on April 8, 2014 to discuss this matter further, reported that several projects, going on throughout the City, were moving forward in a timely manner. He reported that the Street Sweeping Program would once again begin on April 1, 2014, and that parking warnings would be given during the first week of sweeping.

Mr. Steckman reported how the beginning of the program was advertised throughout the City.

There was a short discussion, between Council members and Mr. Steckman regarding snow removal throughout the City.

Mr. Brown thanked the Mayor for getting involved with the bullying program that was held at the Boys and Girls Club.

Mayor Panto spoke regarding the bullying presentation that was put on by Dr. Claudio Cerullo.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received by Council:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Parking Lot Lease Agreement with Sarah, Inc., for additional City Parking, behind the Best Western Motel.

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The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown:

43-2014

Mr. Steckman explained what the parking lot would be used for and that the Agreement, which Council had received earlier, had been amended to show that the City would liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000.

There was a short discussion between Mr. Steckman and Council members on this matter.

The above Resolution was adopted on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Yeas: Ruggles, Warner, Warren, Panto, Brown, Edinger (6)

Nays: None (0)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

There were no remarks from the audience.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p. m. on motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

Yeas: Panto, Warren, Warner, Edinger, Ruggles, Brown (6)

Nays: None (0)


Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

Stated Session
Wednesday
March 26, 2014
6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. INVOCATION
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. ROLL CALL
5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. ACTION ON MINUTES – March 12, 2014 Council Meeting
7. SWEARING IN – Fire Captain George Leidy
8. RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENT – John Price Certified Fire Investigator & Fire Officer.
9. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Agenda Items Only)
10. CONSENT AGENDA
 - (a) Bill 11, Amending Sections in Chapter 285 Fees, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 - (b) Bill 12, Amending Sections contained in Chapter 135, Records, Public of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 - (c) Bill 13, Amending Sub-section 399-17, D, of Section 399-17, Parking Permits, of Article III College Hill Parking Permits, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 - (d) Resolution stating City's intention to assist in Housing Discrimination Complaints.
 - (e) Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 106 N. 4th Street.
 - (f) Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 14 Centre Square.
 - (g) Resolution approving Management Agreement with YMCA.
 - (h) Resolution authorizing destruction of City Records.
 - (i) Resolution approving a Parking Lot Lease Agreement.
 - (j) Resolution approving appointment to the Easton Suburban Water Authority.
11. REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
 - a. Fire Department Annual Report for 2013.
 - b. 2013 Board of Health/Health Officer Annual Report
12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
 - (a) Finance (Kenneth Brown)
 - (b) Economic Development (Sandra Vulcano)
 - (c) Planning (Elinor Warner)
 - (d) Public Safety (Jeffrey Warren)

-Over-

- (e) Public Works
- (f) Administration
- (g) Report of City Solicitor
- (h) Report of Mayor

- (Roger Ruggles)
- (James Edinger)
- (Attorney William Murphy)
- (Salvatore J. Panto Jr.)

- 13. CORRESPONDENCE
- 14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- 15. NEW BUSINESS
- 16. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Any Matter)
- 17. ADJOURNMENT